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Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 026797

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66617
DRAFTED BY: INT:FRADEWAGEN
APPROVED BY: FRED RADEWAGEN, ACTING DIR.
---------- 108449
P 082036Z FEB 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO HICOMTERPACIS SAIPAN

UNCLAS STATE 026797

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OTRA, TQ
SUBJ: JAMES WATT TRAVEL

DOTA NO. 076 TT

THE INTERIOR DEPARTMENT BUREAU OF OUTDOOR RECREATION TODAY ISSUED A PRESS RELEASE ON THE TRAVEL OF DIRECTOR JAMES WATT TO THE TRUST TERRITORY, GUAM AND AMERICAN SAMOA. YOU MAY WISH TO USE SOME OR ALL OF THIS MATERIAL IN MNS.

BEGIN TEXT.

JAMES WATT, DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF OUTDOOR RECREATION, LEAVES SUNDAY FOR A SERIES OF RECREATION-RELATED MEETINGS WITH GOVERNMENT AND CIVIC LEADERS IN GUAN, AMERICAN SAMOA, AND SAIPAN WHICH IS GOVERNMENT HEADQUARTERS FOR THE TRUST TERRITORY OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS.

"I AM PLEASED TO BE MAKING THIS TRIP TO REVIEW THE POTENTIAL FOR OUTDOOR RECREATION IN THIS IMPORTANT AREA. AMERICAN INTERESTS HERE ARE MANY AND VARIED, AND WE HAVE RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE PEOPLE OF THE TERRITORY WHICH COVER VIRTUALLY THE FULL SPECTRUM OF INTERIOR DEPARTMENT ACTIVITY," WATT SAID. "BOR AND ITS PROGRAMS CAN CONTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE ENHANCEMENT OF POTENTIALLY IMPORTANT TOURISM AND RECREATION ACTIVITIES."
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PAGE 02 STATE 026797

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HIGH ON THE AGENDA WILL BE MEETINGS ON EXPANSION OF LOCAL PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES IN SAIPAN WHICH IS DEVELOPING A TOURISM INDUSTRY. MR. WATT WILL COMPLETE HIS MISSION ON FEB 23.

THE TRUST TERRITORY COVERS SOME THREE MILLION SQUARE MILES IN THE WESTERN PACIFIC. ONLY ABOUT 100 OF THE 2100 SEPARATE ISLANDS ARE INHABITED. THE ISLANDS HAVE A POPULATION OF ABOUT 100,000 PEOPLE. GUAM WHILE GEOGRAPHICALLY A PART OF MICRONESIA, IS AN UNINCORPORATED TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES. AMERICAN SAMOA, ALSO A TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES, LIES 2300 MILES SOUTHEAST OF HAWAII IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC.

END TEXT. SIGNED RADEWAGEN

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Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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